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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/988,240	11/19/2001	Takashi Shimojima	P21691	8405

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RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

GODDARD, BRIAN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/988,240

Applicant(s)

SHIMOJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Brian Goddard

Art Unit

2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,991,798 to Ozaki et al.

Referring to claim 1, Ozaki discloses a file management method as claimed. See Figures 1-7 & 11-26 and the corresponding portions of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches "a file management method for a recording medium on which is recorded a distributed content file [See Figs. 1-4], said file management method comprising the steps of:

creating a directory for each package [See e.g. Summary & Fig. 6], and recording a file of content included in that package based on said directory;

managing with a package management file [disk management table (See Fig. 6)] a correspondence between a directory name of said directory and a package identifier assigned to said package; and

managing with a content file group management file [disk link management table (See Fig. 7)] a correspondence between a file name when said content file is recorded on said recording medium and a reference name when that content is linked from other content" as claimed.

Referring to claim 2, Ozaki discloses the file management method as claimed. See Figures 5-7 and the corresponding portions of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches the method according to claim 1, as above, further comprising the step of, when there exists in said package content linking to content included in another package, managing with a link resolution file [cache management table (See Fig. 5)] a correspondence between a reference name indicating content included in said another package and a package identifier of said another package as claimed.

Referring to claim 3, Ozaki discloses the file management method as claimed. See Figures 5-7 and the corresponding portions of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches the method according to claim 1, as above, further comprising the step of designating said directory name by providing correspondence to a package directory number [e.g. ID00001] assigned uniquely to a package, and managing with said package management file [See Fig. 6] a correspondence between said package directory number and said package identifier [602] as claimed.

Referring to claim 4, Ozaki discloses the file management method as claimed. See Figures 5-7 and the corresponding portions of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches the method according to claim 1, as above, further comprising the step of designating a file name of said content by providing correspondence to a content number [e.g. ID00003] assigned in package units, and managing with said content file group management file [See Fig. 7] a correspondence between said content number and said reference name as claimed.

Referring to claim 5, Ozaki discloses the file management method as claimed. See Figure 13 and the corresponding portion of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches the method according to claim 1 as above, further comprising the steps of: describing...[See discussion of claim 1 above]; and when said directory name of file name is changed, changing said directory name [tables are updated upon name change or entry of new data] of said package management file or said file name of said content file group management file as claimed.

Referring to claims 6-8, Ozaki discloses the file management method as claimed. See the Summary of the Invention section, as well as the corresponding portions of the Detailed Description for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches the file management method according to claim 2, as above, further comprising the step of, when a package including link destination content does not exist on said recording medium [See Step (3) of algorithm in column 6], creating a distribution reservation list file [process selection designations] on said recording medium or in a memory area of a content

recording/playback apparatus, in which a package identifier of said package is entered as claimed.

Referring to claim 9, Ozaki discloses the content playback method as claimed. See Figure 17 and the corresponding portion of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches "a content playback method [Fig. 17] comprising the steps of:

when playing back content [process of Fig. 17] recorded on a recording medium by means of the file management method according to claim 2, extracting a content file from said recording medium; and

when there is in said content file a link [e.g. URL or other hyperlink] specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included [HIT in step 1702], specifying a link destination content file using said content file group management file [disk link management file (See Fig. 7)]" as claimed.

Referring to claim 10, Ozaki discloses the content playback method as claimed. See Figure 17 and the corresponding portion of Ozaki's specification for this disclosure. Ozaki teaches the content playback method according to claim 9, as above, further comprising the step of, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included [HIT in step 1701 OR MISHIT in step 1702], specifying a link destination content file using said package management file [disk management file (See Fig. 6)] and said link resolution [cache management file (See Fig. 5)] file as claimed.

Claims 11-12 are rejected on the same basis as claims 1-2 respectively. See the discussions regarding claims 1-2 above for the details of this disclosure.

Claims 13-14 are rejected on the same basis as claims 9-10 respectively, in light of the basis for claims 11-12. See the discussions regarding claims 1-2 and 9-12 above for the details of this disclosure.

Claim 15 is rejected on the same basis as claim 6, in light of the basis for claim 14. See the discussions regarding claims 1-2, 6 and 11-14 above for the details of this disclosure.

Claims 16-17 are rejected on the same basis as claims 1-2 respectively. See the discussions regarding claims 1-2 above for the details of this disclosure.

Claims 18-19 are rejected on the same basis as claims 9-10 respectively, in light of the basis for claims 11-12. See the discussions regarding claims 1-2 and 9-12 above for the details of this disclosure.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0028686 to Schwabe et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,049,799 to Mangat et al. are each considered particularly pertinent to applicant's claimed invention.


The remaining prior art of record is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure and/or portions of applicant's claimed invention.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Goddard whose telephone number is 703-305-7821. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

bdg
06 February 2004


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